

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, more than 717 million ash trees exist in the forests of the great State of Wisconsin, enhancing our state’s air and water quality, natural landscapes, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, property values and local economies; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 20 percent of urban street trees in Wisconsin are ash, helping residents reduce heating and cooling costs, reducing air pollution and storm water runoff, increasing property values and making our towns and cities some of the most beautiful in the country; and,

**WHEREAS**, increasing public awareness and understanding of the emerald ash borer (EAB), a destructive exotic beetle, benefits the State of Wisconsin by curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle through the movement of firewood; and,

**WHEREAS**, efforts undertaken in the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Minnesota and Maryland, in partnership with private and nonprofit organizations; universities; and local, state and federal agencies are helping to protect the billions of ash trees in the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship throughout these states and partnerships ultimately reduces the risk to the nation’s ash resources; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desired goal of the State of Wisconsin that citizens and visitors alike increase their understanding and awareness of EAB and its environmental, ecological, and economic impact on Wisconsin, the Great Lakes region and the nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, spring marks the beginning of the travel and tourism season in Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the government to join forces with schools, businesses, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, tourists and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim the week of **May 20, 2007 – May 26, 2007** as

**EMERALD ASH BORER AWARENESS WEEK IN WISCONSIN**

and I commend this observance to all people.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this first day of May in the year two thousand seven.

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JIM DOYLE

By the Governor:

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DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State